

he had not ordered or authorized or approved any such thing and that he could find no evidence that anybody in governmental authority had done that.

The President said that at the same time that he knew espionage had taken place at Livermore and at Los Alamos, because he had been briefed by Sandy Berger. He knew that illegal campaign contributions had come into the United States from Communist China, and he said he believed President Jiang. Why was that said?

Again, in April of this year, how could the President listen to Chinese Prime Minister Zhu Rongji deny any Chinese involvement in spying and espionage? President Clinton said, "China is a big country with a big government, and I can only say that America is a big country with a big government and occasionally things happen in this government that I don't know anything about."

Talk about a disingenuous statement. In China, in Communist China, if you are involved in this kind of activity and the government does not know about it, they put you in prison or they kill you. Especially nuclear espionage. Yet the President said, "Well, that's a big country and maybe they didn't know about it." Espionage at our laboratories, giving them nuclear technology that could kill 50 to 60 million Americans? Mr. Speaker, our leadership cannot continue to blindly accept each and every denial that comes out of China.

Newsweek recently reported that a team of U.S. nuclear experts practically fainted, these are our top scientists, they practically fainted when the CIA showed them the data that was obtained from its sources in China.

What did this data show, Mr. Speaker? It showed Chinese scientists routinely using phrases, descriptions and concepts that came straight out of our weapons laboratories.

One of the officials close to the investigation said, the Chinese penetration is total. They are deep, deep into the lab's black programs. That means the nuclear technology that we have spent decades developing, that have cost the American taxpayer billions of dollars, that ensured our national security against a first strike by a Communist country or an adversary, Saddam Hussein or whoever it might be, has been compromised and jeopardized; and the Chinese Communists are deep into every one of our top nuclear missile programs.

Now, they say that we are the only superpower in the world. I can tell you that the Chinese Communist government is advancing their nuclear technology with this espionage that has taken place to such a degree that, if they are not on a par with us yet, they are getting very, very close; and we are going to be in jeopardy if we ever have a conflict with them. They have 1.2 or 1.3 billion people. We have 225 or 230 million people. In a nuclear exchange, they could sacrifice 200 million people.

But we could not sacrifice 50 million. Yet they now have the technology with this espionage to really cause our economy and our country severe problems, and I am talking about 50 to 60 million people killed with a first strike and our economy to be in a complete shambles.

We need to have the answers to this. We need to make sure that this kind of espionage never takes place again. And we need to make absolutely sure that those who were responsible, either through neglect or intentionally allowing this to happen, be brought to justice and be held accountable.

I intend to come to this floor every week until we get through this mess for 5 minutes or for an hour to bring this information to the attention of the American people.

Right now, we are all paying attention to Kosovo, halfway around the world, an area where we do not have any vital national interest. And while we are talking about Kosovo and our heart goes out to those people over there who are suffering, while we are talking about that, espionage has taken place in the United States that endangers every man, woman and child, and nobody is even paying any attention to it. It is a darn shame. It shall not continue if I have anything to do with it.

CHINESE ESPIONAGE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I applaud my colleague who was just at the podium addressing the issue of Chinese espionage at our nuclear facilities and would, of course, like to engage the gentleman from Indiana, if I may.

And certainly a question that would have to be raised at this point in time is, can America feel secure today with its nuclear weapons secret intact now? Have we solved this problem yet? Or is there something we should be doing?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. No, the problem has been exacerbated by the espionage that has taken place, as I alluded to a few minutes ago.

The thing that really concerns me is the head of the National Security Council, Sandy Berger, who was briefed about this in April 1996 really did not do anything about it.

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He informed the President in 1997. The President has not owned up to that, and the thing that concerns me a great deal is that when this was known we should have called the head of the FBI, Louis Freeh; Janet Reno; the head of the CIA; and the head of the Energy Department, and together to come up with a way to catch the people who were involved in the espionage and make sure it stopped. But unfortunately they kept the people on at Los Alamos for 3 years after that, and the

Justice Department would not even allow wiretaps on the fellow.

So it has been a real mess, and we need to get to the bottom of it.

Mr. GIBBONS. Is the gentleman suggesting that through inadvertence or maybe intentionally disregarding the danger here, the FBI and the Justice Department failed to take an active role in the investigation of this espionage once it was found out in 1995 and 1996?

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. I think that Louis Freeh and the FBI were trying to do the best that they could. They went to the Justice Department four times asking for electronic surveillance on Mr. Wen Ho Lee, the man who was involved in the espionage, or allegedly involved in the espionage, and the Justice Department denied on four separate occasions the electronic surveillance, and to my knowledge that was the only denial of electronic surveillance where there was probable cause by the FBI in the year of 1997, 1998. And so why did they deny it when we are talking about national security, and why was this man left in this position for 3 years?

Those are questions that need to be answered and answered very quickly.

Mr. GIBBONS. Well, I do express the same concerns that my colleague has over this issue because once our nuclear weapons technology has spread to other countries, of course, as we know, there is a likelihood that that will even progress further in the proliferation of that technology to Third World countries or even rogue states. I know that China has an ongoing participation with countries like Iran, Pakistan and others who are in the process today of building up their nuclear arsenal.

So from the standpoint that America has lost a great deal of its internal security, we have also lost a great deal of our national security from the fact that now these weapons, the design of which was obviously transferred to the Chinese through some process like the gentleman is describing here, now can be directed toward us by the Chinese or other countries who possess this technology.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. The gentleman makes a very valid point. The proliferation of nuclear weapons is growing at a rapid rate, and with this technology going to the Chinese communists, I do not know if they are going to let it out or not, but the fact is they have been selling a lot of advanced weaponry to countries like Iran, and I am not sure about Iraq, but I believe Iraq, and my colleague mentioned some other countries as well. And that technology, if it gets into the wrong hands, could precipitate a strike by some kind of a crazy like Saddam Hussein, if he had the opportunity, that could cause untold human misery.

And so we need to keep a tight lid on all of the nuclear technology that we have, and for us to keep a person who is suspected of espionage in a position of leadership at Los Alamos for 3 years

and not allow the FBI to even put electronic surveillance on him is a real dereliction of duty.

Mr. GIBBONS. Well, I thank the gentleman for, of course, his interest in looking into this issue. It is on the forefront of the minds of a great number of Americans, and I applaud him for his interest in keeping all of us apprised of this and looking into it on behalf of the committee and on behalf of the American people.

PEACEFULLY RESOLVING THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleagues for holding some time while I ran over from Rayburn. I was expecting that the other side would offer a special order, and I did want to make sure that we took this special out this evening, and I am happy that my good friend from Nevada is going to be joining us as we review, Mr. Speaker, the past 4 weeks and actually 5 weeks and discuss an effort by this Congress to move the process involving Kosovo to a new level and a new direction, and that is to try to find a way to solve the situation peacefully.

Mr. Speaker, it was actually a little bit over 4 weeks ago, the week of April 6, when Russian friends of mine who I have been involved with for the past 5 years in a formal Duma-Congress relationship called me at my home and asked if I would be open to some ideas about engaging with them to find a peaceful solution to the Kosovo crisis. They were calling me for several reasons.

One, they said they had, the Russians had been shut out of the process by our government in terms of working with them once the bombing campaign began, that there had been no overture on the part of our State Department or our administration to involve Russia, but rather our administration in the minds of the Russians had become convinced that they could solve the problem of the ethnic cleansing in Serbia by bombing and bombing in a massive way.

The second reason they called, Mr. Speaker, was because these pro-western leaders in Russia were concerned. They saw their country heading down the wrong path. In fact, they cited examples of evidence that Russia had become much more anti-American than at any point in time that they had seen since the days of the Soviet communist regime.

In fact, they said that Americans were now being told not to speak English on the streets of Russia, that the Duma had canceled all activities interconnecting with America, canceling all conferences. The Harvard University Study Group that goes on every

year was canceled. The initiative to involve exchanges of staffers was canceled. Every possible contact between us and Russia had been severed, not just because of the bombing but because of our administration's refusal to work with Russia in a proactive way.

In fact, as I mentioned earlier today, Mr. Speaker, a Duma member was here in this Capitol building, and he said something very interesting: that for decades and decades the Soviet Communist Party had spent billions of dollars to try to convince the Russian people that America was bad, that we were a Nation that was filled with hate and that Russia should not in the end want to be friends with, and he went on to say that the Soviet Communist Party failed. All the money they spent, all the activities they engaged in could not convince the Russian people that America was evil or that America was not a nation of the highest standards.

And he went on to say today that in just 45 days this President has done what the Soviet Communist party could not do in decades and decades of attempts, and that is because of the Kosovo crisis, because of the incessant bombing of the people of Serbia; because of the lack of involvement of Russia, the Russian people had turned against America, and that the polls were showing that Russians all over that nation now see America in their minds and in their eyes in a negative way.

What they have told us is that if we continue this policy, we are going to push Russia right into the hands of the communists and the ultra nationalists who want to revert back to the Cold War days when America was the enemy.

Russia has elections scheduled for this year, Mr. Speaker, and the Russians that are friends of ours, the pro-Western forces, are saying if you continue the policies that you are currently pursuing, you will defeat us in the election and you will end up with the Duma, a federation council and a president who are anti-American, who are anti-West and who will turn toward the Middle Eastern, in many cases the rogue states.

That is not what we want, Mr. Speaker.

So when the Russians called me 5 weeks ago at home, I said, "Send me what you would like us to pursue." They sent me a simple document that contained three ideas.

The first one was that Russia should accept responsibility for helping to stop the ethnic cleansing, and they called it ethnic cleansing.

Number two, that Milosevic had to come to grips with the NATO requirements. The only problem Russia had with that was that they felt U.S. and British troops on the ground would not be appropriate, since America and Britain were the primary bombers that were persecuting the raids over Serbia.

And, number three, that there be a commission established between the

Congress and the Duma to oversee any agreement that would be reached.

Now, Mr. Speaker, that was a simple plan, but as I looked at it, I said, "You know, it's something we can build on." So I took that document. Not wanting to work outside of our government, I wrote up a memo.

I first of all called the White House and talked to Leon Fuerth, the top security adviser to Vice President Gore, and I said, "Mr. Fuerth, this is what the Russians have done. You know of my involvement with them. I want to send you a copy of their proposal, and I want to let you know I am going to work with them quietly."

He and I suggested that I follow up that call with Carlos Pascual from the National Security Council who focuses on Russian issues. I called him. I faxed him the same memo.

In that first week of April I told no Republican what I was doing, but I kept our government informed.

Over the weekend we had additional calls.

The following week I decided to brief the Director of Central Intelligence, George Tenet. I let him know that I had been contacted, what my response was and that I had told the Russians that I was supportive of the five points that NATO had eventually come to put into writing and the administration's approach, that I was willing to work with them to try to find a peaceful solution.

Also that week, Mr. Speaker, which was the week of August or April 13, I contacted two Democrat colleagues in this body: the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER) and the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. MURTHA). Congressman Hoyer is my cochair on the Russian Duma-Congress Initiative, he is very well respected by the administration, and he is a good friend of mine who I trust. Congressman Murtha, also a good friend, is a key person that the administration relies on.

I asked the gentleman from Pennsylvania and the gentleman from Maryland to talk to the administration, to talk to Strobe Talbott and talk to the White House and let them know what I was doing, and they both did that, and they told me they did. The gentleman from Maryland talked to Strobe Talbott, and the gentleman from Pennsylvania talked to the White House.

Also that week, Mr. Speaker, I approached three other Democrats in this body: the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. BLAGOJEVICH) because of his Serbian background and ethnic ties; the gentleman from Hawaii (Mr. ABERCROMBIE) who had just returned from Kosovo; and the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) who had gone with me to Moscow in December.

So during the second week of this process I contacted no Republicans but again focused on the other party and the administration, trying to find common ground.

At the end of that week, Mr. Speaker, I called the State Department and